

Modern Lens Design  
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Chapter

22

## Scanner/ $f\theta$ and Laser Disk/Collimator Lenses

### 22.1 Monochromatic Systems

In a system which is truly monochromatic, the designer is no longer constrained by the need to achromatize the lens system. Thus high-index flint glasses can be used in positive elements and low-index crown glasses can be used in negative elements. This is obviously beneficial as regards the Petzval curvature, and obviates any need to use the expensive lanthanum glasses for the high-index elements. The resulting lens is, of course, a hyperchromat and is suitable only for use with very monochromatic light sources.

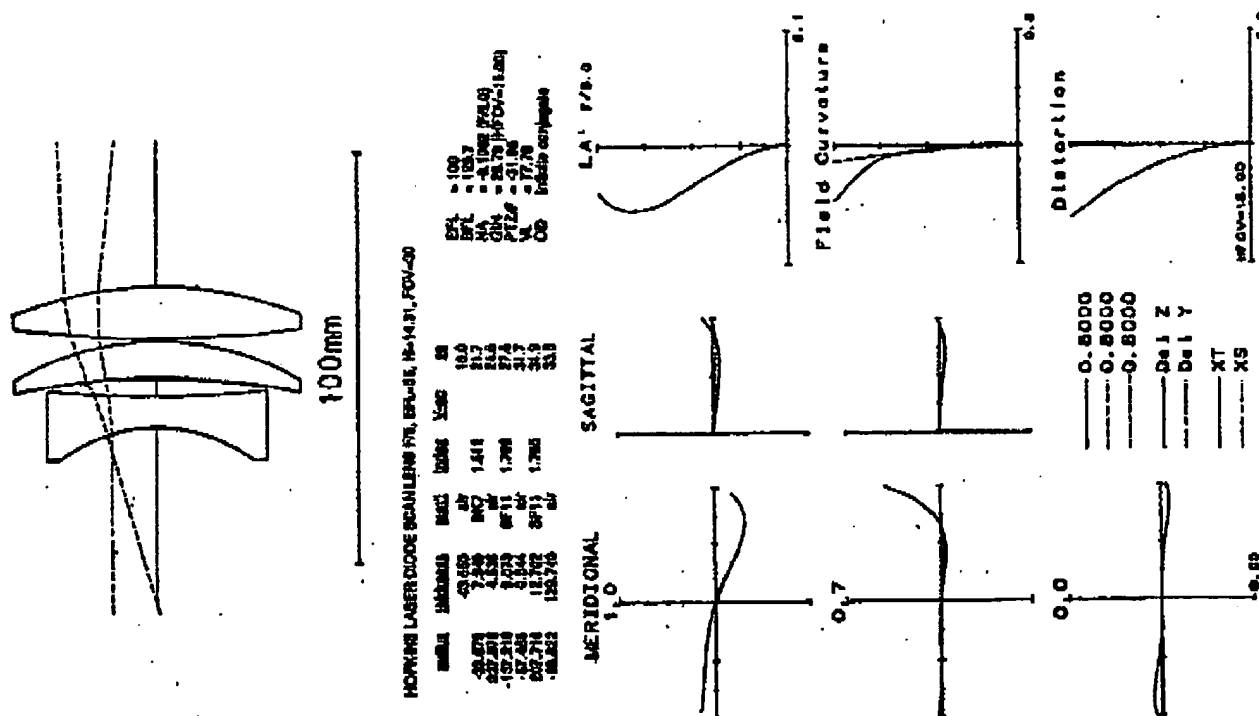
### 22.2 Scanner Lenses

The scanner lens operates with an oscillating mirror which scans the image across the field. To minimise the size of the scanning mirror, the pupil of the system is located at the mirror. An ordinary distortion-free lens has an image height (distance from the axis) which follows the rule  $h = f \tan \theta$ . When the image is scanned across the field by a mirror with a constant angular velocity, its linear velocity changes; the exposure produced will vary with the velocity. In order to achieve a uniform exposure across the field, distortion is deliberately introduced so that the image position relationship becomes  $h = f\theta$ . Note that all of the designs in this section have a negative distortion of this type.

The simplest scanner lens is a single meniscus lens, similar to the meniscus landscape lens. A two-element lens with the negative ele-

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**Figure 1**

is a simple three-element lens, in a  $- + +$  configuration, with the negative element made of low-index BK7 glass (517-643) and the positive elements made of SF11, an inexpensive, stable, high-index flint. This basic configuration ( $- + +$ ) is not only nearly ubiquitous, but quite versatile; it has even been used for long-wavelength (10.8- $\mu\text{m}$ ) scanners (with suitable materials). A slower, wider-angle scanner lens is shown in Fig. 22.2; here all three elements have the same index, and the order is  $+ - +$ . Figure 22.3 achieves a higher speed and wider angle by splitting the last element (and shifting some power from the rearfront element). Figure 22.4 is a similar configuration, except that the negative element is low-index BK7. The last of these examples is Fig. 22.5, with a fifth element added on the image side.

The last two scanner lenses, Figs. 22.6 and 22.7, are examples of *telescopic systems* in which the exit pupil is located at infinity, so that the principal ray of the imaging cone is always normal to the focal plane as the image is scanned across the field. As can be seen, this does not only tend to require a complex design, but also requires that the lens aperture be larger than the image field.

Note that Fig. 20.8 shows a scanner lens with rooming capability.

### 22.3 Laser Disk, Focusing, and Collimator Lenses

Figure 22.8 shows a typical molded glass laser disk lens. Both surfaces are conics with general aspheric deformations. The lens thickness is important to the design in that it allows for some correction of the astigmatism. At the speed of  $f/0.9$  of this example, it is of course vital that the plastic cladding on the disk be included in the design. The actual focal length of this type of lens is to the order of 6 mm, at which focal length the design wavefront aberration is a tiny fraction of a wavelength. This type of lens is often molded in plastic as well as glass.

Figure 23.9 is an airspaced doublet, whose correction is based on the same principles as outlined in Chap. 6 except that, as a monochromatic system, both elements can be made from a high-index flint glass (305-354). Note that if the configuration is chosen so that the chromatic aberration is well-corrected, then the lens can be designed for several different wavelengths, although it will require refocusing for each wavelength.

Figures 22.10, 22.11, and 22.12 are examples of spherical-surfaced laser disk lenses. Note that, in each case, the final positive element is spaced well away from the aperture stop in order to allow for a modest correction of the astigmatism. In Fig. 22.12 the designer has com-

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